GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND PROJECT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES JUNE 4, 2001

- 1. Attendance See Attendance Sheet attachment.
- 2. Review and Acceptance of May 14, 2001 meeting minutes.

ACTION: A motion to approve the minutes of May 14, 2001, Committee meeting was made by Larry Herrup and seconded by Frank Del Vecchio with corrections. (1). On page 2 paragraph 2, "the motion passes unanimously" should be deleted because there was no enactment. (2). On page 2 paragraph 5, Amy Rabin had nominated "Sherri Krassner" to the Middle Beach Committee. (3). Finally, on page 5 paragraph 1, Mr. Jerry Libbin of the Biscayne Pointe Homeowner's Association said that The North Beach "President's" Council Resolution is being circulated to the various associations regarding support for the Fire Station No. 4 improvements. The minutes were unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION: Jean-Francois LeJeune asked about item No.10-B "Recommendation to Approve funding for a 3rd Lane for Sunset Island" that was presented to the GO Bond Oversight Committee on May 14, 2001. Tim Hemstreet explained to Mr. LeJeune that on November 6, 2000 \$35,000 was approved for the construction of the proposed third lane. Since that time, the Homeowner's Association has requested that a Kiosk (guardhouse) be provided with the right of way at the center of the road and that major landscaping improvements be included in the project. An additional allocation of \$50,000 is required for the construction of the project. The total estimated cost of \$85,000 is broken down as follows: \$50,000 for roadway improvements (including kiosk provisions) and \$35,000 for landscape and irrigation features. Mr. LeJeune responded that he objects to this project.

3. Project Status Report

Bob Middaugh reported that since the last GO Bond Oversight Committee meeting on May 14, 2001, not a lot has transpired. The Administration has met with URS and has negotiated to reduce the high fee level to a more manageable number. Mr. Middaugh explained that the Administration is working to adjust the scope of services to reflect what services are actually needed for each individual project and that the scope can be adjusted so the City can receive the services needed to fit the unique set of actual conditions that exist. One of the tasks the staff is working on is the completion of the front-end documents; the Legal department has spent a long time on this. The documents will be provided for comments as soon as possible. The North Shore Youth Center project is being held up (among others) until we have a good set of front-end documents to protect us.

DISCUSSION: Marty Hyman asked if we are still on schedule with the North Shore Youth Center project. He expressed his concern on the importance of moving forward with this project. He also asked if this item would be going to the City Commission in July so construction can hopefully begin September. Mr. Middaugh said yes, we're a couple of weeks away from finalizing the front-end documents, so the schedule should still be OK.

Larry Herrup requested that the information in the project update status report be updated more carefully so that the amounts and names listed are accurate. Mr. Middaugh responded that the Administration is working on trying to improve this by reducing the amount of paperwork generated in the process. Mr. Herrup also requested that the project name "Biscayne Point" be changed to "Biscayne Beaches and surrounding areas". Mr. Middaugh said that the change of name at this time might cause some confusion because of what has already transpired on the project and requested that Mr. Herrup reconsider this matter. Mr. Herrup responded, in order to avoid further confusion; change the name of the neighborhood formerly known as "Biscayne Point" to "Biscayne Beach and surroundings areas".

Marty Hyman said he would like to see a separate section on Change Orders in the GO Bond Oversight Agenda, the Committee adopted a policy not to micromanage, but at least to have some information on them would be greatly appreciated even if there isn't any to report on.

4. Summary of Expenditures

Leonard Wien, Jr., asked about the Series 2000 vs. Series 2001. Mark Alvarez responded that the funds being tracked are from the Series 2000 Bond Issue Sale. Mr. Wein requested that a grand total amount for each entire job be shown.

5. Report from Hazen & Sawyer

Bert Vidal reported that on the May 16, 2001, the Commission awarded the A&E contracts for the following neighborhoods: Nautilus, Oceanfront, North Shore, Bayshore, West Avenue/Alton Road, and Star, Palm and Hibiscus Islands. Those contracts are with the A&E firms for final execution and once we receive them back we can go ahead and issue a notice to proceed and begin the planning process.

Agreements for Flamingo/Lummus, La Gorce, North Shore, Biscayne Beach and surrounding areas have been drafted and may be submitted to the City Commission for review on June 27, 2001, but may slide to the next one depending on the negotiations. The cost model that is being prepared should be ready by the next meeting of the GO Bond Oversight for the committee's review and comments.

DISCUSSION: Frank Del Vecchio commented that Hazen & Sawyer have prepared an excellent scope of services. The scope consists of 1. The neighborhood's description 2. The number of community workshop(s) 3. The division of work into number of bid packages depending on neighborhood. Mr. Del Vecchio suggested those elements such as traffic impact, right-of-way encroachments and commercial owner concerns be incorporated into the planning process in some manner at the neighborhood workshop level.

Marty Hyman asked about the scheduling conflict between the 63rd Street Flyover and the Collins Avenue water main project north of 41st Street. Bert Vidal said that he will provide maps of the North, Middle and South areas showing each year's construction activity in one or two months for their review.

Mr. Hyman asked what is the funding status of the Washington Avenue Improvements of funding. Mr. Vidal responded that additional funds were required for the project due to a City policy, which requires a higher level of service for drainage improvements.

Mr. Hyman wants to carefully monitor project expenditures so no project in a particular neighborhood will suffer because of monies being spent on another neighborhood and requested that this item be placed on the next GO Bond Oversight Committee meeting. Mr. Vidal responded that the front sheet of the cost model clearly shows all of these details.

Mr. Herrup commented on the high number of meetings that are held, which prevents staff from working on project assignments. Mr. Middaugh said that the Administration has reduced the number of people involved in major weekly meetings, reduced the amount of the paperwork generated, and reduced the number of scheduled meetings.

Michael Rotbart asked for delineation of the GO Bond Oversight Committee's responsibilities. Commissioner Dermer responded that the GO Bond Oversight Committee has jurisdiction over GO Bond fund allocations only; (but are informed on other bond money issues).

6. Recommendation to Allocate \$84,115 for the Pine Tree Park Beautification Project

Kevin Smith submitted a request to allocate funding in the amount \$84,115 for the Pine Tree Beautification project. Mr. Smith informs the committee that this is Phase II as delineated in the Master Plan and that this will enable us to pretty much finish the project as originally stated in the Master Plan. Mr. Smith also submitted to the committee a footprint of what the improvement will look like, what exactly will be done and when it will be finished and said that the City will be doing the work "in-house" with Property Management and with the City's sub-contractors. Mr. Hyman asked who would be signing off on this project; Mr. Smith told the committee that Brad Judd of Property Management is a licensed general contractor, that he will be managing the project.

ACTION: A motion was made Marty Hyman and seconded by Amy Rabin. The motion was unanimously approved.

7. Park(s) Project Status Update verbal presentation by Kevin Smith

Mr. Smith said, as Mr. Middaugh mentioned to you earlier that we are moving forward with several of our projects. The Group "A" Parks, referring to the Palm Island, Crespi/ Stillwater and La Gorce, and the Group "B" Parks referring to Fairway, Tatum and Park View Island are currently in Purchasing (awaiting to be issued for bid) they should be ready soon, within a week or early next week. He explains that it is a simple project, with some minimal construction for example; installing a fence and/or placing pavers. Group "C" Parks referring to Muss, Washington and Fairway, we are going to be holding off until the front-end documents referenced by Mr. Middaugh are complete because these parks have substantial construction and the dollar value exceeds \$1 million dollars. The City feels that it would be prudent to hold off and have those front-end documents available to us.

Mr. Smith also mentions as Mr. Middaugh did earlier on the status of the North Shore Park and Youth Center that the City is holding off until the front-end documents are finalized to make sure we have the best possible situation in hand in the construction and bidding documents prior to their issuance.

Lummus Park: the City has held two community meetings and we are still receiving recommendations from the community and proceeding in accordance with them. For example; just a brief summary, some of those recommendations are putting the sidewalk at 10 feet; currently the sidewalk is at 5 feet. At present, restroom facility at 14th Street will be constructed new, however it will be a representative of the current facility but cost wise it will be a benefit in value to demolish and construct new.

Mitch Novick, asked Mr. Smith that to his understanding he thought the restroom facility on 14th Street was a contributing structure. Mr. Smith responded, that the City will be bringing it back to the Historic Preservation Board prior to moving forward however, that is how we are going to be proceeding at this point and will be bringing it to the board for recommendations.

North Shore Open Space Park: although there is a minimal dollar value in comparison to the overall project in this program right now, we are currently in Phase I. If all things proceed in accordance we will be putting it on the commission agenda for award on (Wednesday, June 6, 2001). Phase I is the eradication of the exotic materials, adding of new landscape materials, irrigation, etc.

The Scott Rakow Youth Center and the Flamingo Park and Pool are both in construction and proceeding on schedule. The Normandy Park and Pool came in with a request for proposal (RFP) and staff is analyzing those responses and will get back to you probably in a month or so with the results.

DISCUSSION: Mr. LeJeune asked, what is the process for a renovation of a park, he understands that the Pine Tree project is only \$90,000 but, looking at the project, he finds it extremely poor and he has seen some others that in term of design he wonders what the architect's responsibilities are in designing these parks.

Mr. Smith responded: I will use Pine Tree as an example; we started out back in 1994 with a request from the community to bring out a Parks Bond Program much in advance of the GO Bond funding. We initiated the We anticipated a request for \$40 million in bond funding. Through the process and through probably, I will safely say that about 75 community meetings were held throughout the City. We were able to hone down that dollar value and when it was approved by the Commission and issued to the voters and approved by the voters it was 15 million, that brought to us two separate issues, one that the City should be able to develop a Parks Improvement Program and the second a Master Plan. The Master Plan at the time when it was completed it came around to \$30 million, again with the \$15 million less for A&E fees, to accomplish that we held a series of community meetings, an on-going process to determine what should be spent with the money we had available because at the time we were not even calling Phase I we were calling it the Park Plan and if we ever came along with additional funding we would finish it. After the Master Plan was approved and far more community meetings were held, total being around 80 for the whole process.

We were able to gain the community's input regarding the designs; put basically the community's expectations as well as within the budget constraint or what we had available to us so a lot of the designs you see coming out like Pine Tree for example is a simple landscape project, there are no buildings being built, there is no significant architectural structures that are being designed so Pine Tree has gone through several neighborhood and community meetings and the Commission, when proceeding with that so that when it is finished it will be basically what the community had asked for.

Mr. LeJeune asked, if the community selects the architects. Mr. Smith responded that the process is the architects are selected through a competitive process. Some are recommended by the community and selected by community members as well as City staff through an A&E Architectural selection process. Again, a bit of history from the time we obtained the \$15million Parks Bond it initially was authorized to proceed forward in 1996 we went out and had a number grants applied for and approved. Using the matching dollars we have also been able to allocate an additional \$7.2 million from Dade County's Safe Neighborhood Park Bond to allocate it towards various projects and in addition \$24million more of the new money that has been allocated so this is an on-going growing and expanding process and ultimately what has happened although it has been very slow but we are accomplishing not only what was in the Parks Bond Plan in 1994 and what was envisioned by the community.

Mr. LeJeune responded, "I think I understand the process better, I just find it personally and that this is not the first park project that I have seen, that there have been ones that have been completed like the one on 20th Street and Purdy Avenue, for example from an architectural point of view, from a landscape point of view I again find it extremely poor, I mean it is competent, at best it is relatively poor if one thinks about the ideas that are going into these projects. My comment was on that generally at this moment the City of Miami Beach there is a push that has been going on for years for the increase of quality in the building and landscaping design. The South Point project and some of those are quite interesting. "

Commissioner Dermer thought Mr. LeJeune's views were good views, but he explained to Mr. LeJeune's that the committee does not get into aesthetics issues. We have come already pretty close with the Art in Public Places issue and when it comes to the lushness of landscape or the beauty of a layout or things like that they have to go through the Design Review Board.

This committee is here to make sure that City is spending the money on budget, on time. Mr. LeJeune responded that he would be looking more carefully into those things and try to understand what the fees of the architects are relative to the quality of the design or the intensity of the design.

Mr. Novick asked for clarification given to the contributing status of the 14th Street Restroom facility, is it still as of today, known as a non-contributing building. Mr. Smith responded that he has documents from November of 1998 when the restroom came to the Board, at that time as a result of Historic Preservation Board meeting it was declared a contributing restroom.

Mr. Del Vecchio responded that there were two neighborhood meetings, the quality of the meeting was excellent because all interests were represented. The representation was made by Assistant City Manager, Mayra Diaz-Buttacavoli, that the designation of the existing 14th Street Restroom building as contributing which had been a few years ago that it had been de-designated by Historic Preservation Board. The Historic Preservation Board reclassified it as non-contributing facility.

Mr. Smith responded that he understands there might be some confusion on this matter. He will continue to research it and bring it back with whatever requirements that he must comply with prior to proceeding with the restroom.

Finally, Mr. Ronald Hayes, Miami Beach resident (north area), talked about his concern for pedestrians crossing on Harding Avenue (he called it the "Daytona Race Track"). He asked if something can be implemented to enforce drivers to slow down so it will reduce the amount of accidents and deaths that have occurred recently.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:27pm

JMG/RM/TH/jv

F:\WORK\\$ALL\JAQUE\00GOBOND\MINUTES\6401minutes.doc